



PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD

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From: Nish Goicolea, PTSB Executive Director

Discussion: PTSB Board Approved Changes to Computer Science & Other Pathways

The following describes recent changes to Computer Science certification as approved by the Wyoming Professional Teaching Standards Board and the other pathways currently in place for Wyoming teachers.

The PTSB Board voted at their regular Board meeting on May 20, 2019 to:

- Authorize the receipt of program approval applications from Wyoming community colleges to offer Computer Science endorsement programs
- Modify rules to allow the addition of a Computer Science endorsement through completion of a minor of at least 15 credit hours in Computer Science
- Modify rules for the Demonstration of Competency (DOC) of at least 15 credit hours in Computer Science courses and a passing Praxis score.
- Micro-credentialing was also discussed for Computer Science and collaboration is in the works with numerous other state organizations to build micro-credentials for Wyoming

This is in addition to what we already have in place that allows:

- Standard program completion
- Elementary school teachers, teaching in their self-contained classrooms do **NOT** require additional endorsements to teach computer science content
- Exception Authorization (EA) with a professional development plan approved by the district for any teacher (approved in 2017)
- Professional, Industry & Career (PIC) permit- this is designed for people coming from industry (have had in place for more than a decade)
- Demonstration of competency (**formerly 27** credit hours now **15** from an accredited college in Computer Science coursework)
- Consultant Specialist Permit- a 1-year renewable permit districts may apply for, for a “highly and uniquely qualified candidate”
- At the PTSB April 29, 2019 Special Board Meeting, the PTSB Board voted to change the grade-level band for Computer Science from 6-12 to **K-12**